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LOCAL

Former Rep. seeks write-in vote

By DAMIEN FISHER
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Former state representative Gordon Flint Sr. announced this week he intends to run a write-in campaign for one of three seats in district 2 in this year's election.

 **Newport** "I guess I have some time on my hands," the 87-year-old Flint said Monday.

Newport's district 2 already has a full slate of candidates with Republican husband and wife team Beverly, an incumbent, and Henry Rodeschin facing off against incumbent Democrats Peter Franklin of Newport and Arthur Jillete of Goshen for the three House seats.

Flint said Monday he hopes to become the third Republican representing the district along with the Rodeschins. Flint is no stranger to the job, having served in the state House for 22 years, from 1982 to 2004. Before entering politics, Flint was the superintendent of SAU 43 in Newport.

If elected, Flint said he would focus on education funding, health care and Sullivan County issues.

"I know the setup pretty well," he said.

Flint said he is concerned about the county's use of Genesis HealthCare to run the nursing home in Unity. While he would be open to different sides of the issue, Flint said he would like to see the county take over the home.

"I don't really know, but I would think the county could run it," Flint said.

As for education funding, Flint said the state needs to do more to provide local school districts with the necessary money.

"We need to find funding that meets the needs of school districts," he said.

Flint would not say where that money should come from, admitting that the state would need to raise revenues to meet education requirements.

"I'm not sure how to find more money," he said.

Flint suggested raising state fees instead of taxes for education and health care. Flint said he wants the state to step in and provide medical care to more citizens.

"I hope to find ways to extend health care to all citizens," Flint said.

The district covers Croydon, Goshen and Newport.

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